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Application No. Applicant(s) 10/628,330 MIURA ET AL. Notice of Allowability Examiner Art Unit 3745 Christopher Verdier -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308. 1. This communication is responsive to *Applicant's Remarks dated March 1, 2007*. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3, 6-15, and 18-22. 3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) 🛛 All b) Some* c) None of the: 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received. 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * Certified copies not received: _____ Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE. 4. 🔲 A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient. 5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted. (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d). 6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL. Attachment(s) 1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 5. Notice of Informal Patent Application 2. Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 6. Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08). 7. X Examiner's Amendment/Comment Paper No./Mail Date 4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit 8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance of Biological Material 9. Other ____.

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EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the

payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the Claims:

In claim 10, line 1, "claims" has been changed to -- claim --.

In claim 21, line 5, -- of -- has been inserted after "one".

The above changes to the claims have been made to correct informalities therein; the above claim changes were made in the Examiner's Amendment of September 14, 2006 but were inadvertently not incorporated into the current listing of claims.

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Applicant's Arguments (see the Remarks dated March 1, 2007, page 14, the last paragraph and the paragraph bridging onto page 15, and page 15, the second and third full paragraphs) that European Patent 909,897 does not teach or suggest a convergence device or a pulsation canceling device, that Applicant's Admitted Prior Art Figures 23-24 do not show a

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pulsation canceling device nor an impact reducing device, that Fuji 6,336,788 does not disclose or suggest a pulsation canceling device, and that none of the prior art references teach or suggest the combination of the pulsation canceling device and impact reducing device and that the prior art references do not disclose any motivation to combine the impact reducing device of Fuji 6,336,788 and the pulsation canceling device of European Patent 909,897 with Applicant's Admitted Prior Art Figures 23-24 (see the Remarks dated March 1, 2007, page 15, the last two paragraphs) have been carefully considered and are persuasive. Further, the combination of references involves hindsight reasoning and selectively picking and choosing elements from the combination of references. Therefore, the rejection of claims 1-3, 6, 10-11, and 13 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicants' Admitted Prior Art Figures 23-24 in view of European Patent 909,897 and Fuji 6,336,788 is withdrawn, and the rejection of claims 14-15 and 21-22 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicants' Admitted Prior Art Figures 23-24 and European Patent 909,897 and Fuji 6,336,788 and Rollwage 6,527,507 is withdrawn.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher Verdier whose telephone number is (571) 272-4824. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 10:00-6:30.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward K. Look can be reached on (571) 272-4820. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

C.V. May 16, 2007

Christopher Verdier Primary Examiner Art Unit 3745